GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1617
ANSWERED ON:08.03.2016
Devdasi Practice
Kashyap Shri Virender

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Devdasi practice is still prevalent in some parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and
(c) the steps/measures taken/being taken by the Government to abolish this practice?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
(SHRI VIJAY SAMPLA)

(a) & (b): As reported by the Ministry of Home Affairs, the prevalence of Devadasi System has come to the notice in certain parts of the country through Public Interest Litigations (PILs) and Media News. However, the data on State-wise details are not maintained centrally.

(c): Ministry of Home Affairs has issued an Advisory for taking necessary action on this practice suggesting States/ UTs to prevent such practice, keep watch on report of Devadasi related incidents and take legal action and identify all such girls who are forced into such exploitation and to rehabilitate them suitably. The URL of the said advisory is as below:
http://www.mha.nic.in/sites/upload_files/mha/files/DevadasiSystem_231215.PDF